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Tshombe, Moise

Algeria Orders Return Of Tshombe to Congo

Algiers, July 21 (UPI) — Algeria's Supreme Court today ordered extradition of kidnaped former Congolese Premier Moise Tshombe to the Congo capital of Kinshasa where he is under sentence of death for treason.

Tshombe landed in Algeria June 30 after his private plane was hijacked over the Mediterranean and the pilot forced to fly at gunpoint to an airport near Algiers.

Shortly afterward, a rebellion by Tshombe's former Katanga gendarmes and white mercenary troops broke out in the north-eastern Congo but the rebels were put to flight by Congolese government forces.

Just before the Algerian court announced its decision Tshombe said he was "the victim of the CIA and of my popularity in the Congo."

The 48-year-old Tshombe has sometimes been called the "rubberman" because of his past ability to bounce back from difficult situations. He faces execution by the government of his Congolese arch-rival, Joseph Mobutu.

The Algerian court's decision will be forwarded to the Algerian justice minister who will act on it after consulting president Houari Boumedienne.

Informed sources said it was likely that Tshombe would be extradited in secret and the action would be announced only after he reached the Congo.

In a spirited declaration before the court, Tshombe said his friendship with President De Gaulle "displeased the imperialists."

"I will go to the Congo if the



Moise Tshombe
Faces death in Congo

supreme court so decides, for I am a man. But I call the court's attention to the responsibility it has in the eyes of the Congolese

people and the entire world," he said.

(In Chicago, attorney Luis Kutner said he had been retained by Tshombe's wife Mrs. Ruth Tshombe to seek a world habeas corpus from the UN General Assembly through the assembly's Human Rights Commission.)

Mobutu Asks Rebels To Free the Hostages

Kinshasa, Congo, July 21 (UPI)—President Joseph Mobutu asked rebel mercenaries today to free hostages taken into their jungle hideouts.

He asked the rebels to put a white sheet out on an airstrip if they agreed, and a black one if not. A transport plane bearing a red cross flew over Punia airstrip, where the rebels are believed hiding, to look for the signal.

Congolese officials visited the centers of the recent rebellion, and reported the area was quiet.

The remaining rebels include 180 white mercenaries and 500 soldiers from Katanga. They have already freed 16 Belgian Air Force technicians captured in a brief uprising at the town of Kisangani.